

Message Text

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51

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 AGR-20 AID-20 EB-11

RSC-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 SWF-02 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /196 W

----- 079323

R 151230Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4736

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS PORT LOUIS 0692

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, MP, OCON

SUBJECT: FRANCE EXPelled FROM FAO AFRICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

PASS USDA FOR PHILLIPS, AID/AFR, AID/TAB/AGR

PANAMA CITY FOR US DEL FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE

ROME FOR FODAG

1. FRANCE, IN EFFECT, WAS EXPelled FROM THE AFRICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE TODAY. FRANCE AFTER OCCUPYING THE CHAIR ALL WEEK AND ASKING TO SPEAK, HAD AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MORNING SESSION MOVED INTO THE CHAIR A MEMBER OF ITS DELEGATION FROM THE COMORES LISTED AS MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT OF COMORES. AFTER A POINT OF ORDER BY THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF SIERRA LEONE, SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES INTERVENED AND THERE APPEARED TO BE UNANIMOUS OPINION THAT NEITHER FRANCE NOR THE COMORES MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION COULD SPEAK. WHEN THE CHAIRMAN, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (MAURITIUS), RECALLED THAT FRANCE WAS A MEMBER

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UNDER THE CONSTITUTION AND RULES AND REGULATIONS, THIS WAS

NOT ACCEPTED.

2. THE CHAIRMAN THEN CALLED A BRIEF RECESS. IT IS REPORTED (ADG MENSAH) THAT DURING THE RECESS FRANCE HAD AGREED TO WITHDRAW AND THE COUNTRY'S NAME PLATE HAD BEEN REMOVED AND PLACED IN THE OBSERVER SECTION. FRANCE TO THIS POINT HAS NOT OCCUPIED THE OBSERVER SEAT. FRANCE MAY HAVE INTENTIONALLY PRECIPITATED THIS ACTION. UNDERSTAND FROM ADG WEST THAT FRANCE WAS ADVISED TWO DAYS AGO, WHEN ASKING TO HAVE NAME PUT ON LIST TO SPEAK, THAT THIS WAS VERY LIKELY TO HAPPEN.

3. THE CHAIRMAN THEN CALLED ON THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT OF COMORES (MOLINACO) WHICH SEVERELY CRITICIZED FRENCH RULE OF THE ISLAND.

MANHARD

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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: OCON, MP, FAO
To: STATE
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